## TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office

April 27, 1999 LB 652, 880

proposal that will be before you today. As you know, last year the Legislature created a Juvenile Justice System Task Force, which had two members of the body appointed. I was and Senator Suttle. Throughout the process, a number of other senators were involved and had I know an interest in this, and I appreciate Senator Chambers' support of this effort, but it wasn't just my effort. I know that a number of other members of the body have been looking at these issues. It's just that they've culminated this year and we did have a task force last year that studied the issues and made recommendations. all due respect to the previous speaker, I believe these issues have been out there. Every member of the Legislature received a copy of the report and I'm going to read part of that into the record because it sets the stage for why today and I know this is an amendment that's being adopted as we speak, but it seems to me that in the course of our debate from time to time, we come to some conclusions and I think we have an idea that is solid, that can be presented today and we can move forward with your decision to go with it or not go with it. But it is with information that's been presented before. It is with discussion that's been ongoing since my priority bill, LB 652, came up. number of people have been looking for ways to fund it. It is currently with the cigarette tax. This is another option for Otherwise, it will be back up with the you to consider. cigarette tax. Let me tell you the difference of between what that bill did and what you're going to have today. particular amendment will be just to address the facilities at Kearney and Geneva. When LB 652 comes up, you'll have a chance to talk about secured detention in a secure facility. That is a separate issue. It will be treated as a separate issue today. just about fixing up two facilities that This is deplorable condition, that we know have significant needs. have preliminary estimates that just happened to come out to be about the same amount of money that you'll be given an opportunity to transfer to the Department of Health and Human Services so that they can improve these facilities. The amount of operating money, and this is Senator Brown's amendment, so I don't want to take away from what she's been doing with it, but if I've been listening to her carefully, I believe the total of operating and construction costs will be about \$9.9 million that could be transferred at this point in time to a priority which would be to fix up the YRTCs at Kearney and Geneva. That would